



 Warm-up

Read the two dialogues.

Does this bag belong to you?

No, this is that *girl's* bag.

Whose bags are these?

These are those *girls'* bags.

Work in pairs. Look at the italicised nouns. Notice the use of the apostrophe ('). Why has it been used in different ways? Discuss in class.



Let us learn about the possessive form of nouns. We are also going to learn how the possessive form of the noun is different from the plural form of the noun.

Look at these words.

Noun	Possessive Form
girl	girl's
cat	cat's

Noun	Possessive Form
Parul	Parul's
child	child's



The possessive form of a singular noun is shown by adding an apostrophe (') + s at the end of the noun.

The possessive form of a noun shows possession.

For example:

- ♦ *Nitin's* bat —————> the bat that belongs to Nitin
- ♦ the *boy's* mother —————> the mother of the boy
- ♦ the *boy's* teacher —————> the teacher who teaches the boy

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Look at the different ways in which the possessive form of the noun is formed.

- i. We add an apostrophe (') + s to singular nouns.
- ii. We add just an apostrophe (') to plural nouns that end in -s.
- iii. We add an apostrophe (') + s to plural nouns that do not end in -s.



the *boy's* teacher



the *girls'* teacher



the *children's* teacher

A. Rewrite the sentences by using the correct possessive form of the nouns.

1. The children have gone to their grandparents house.
2. Raju is riding his brothers bicycle.
3. The geeses cries could be heard.
4. Mens wallets are displayed in that section.
5. The officers son can draw really well.
6. He is in my brothers class.
7. My son goes to a boys school.

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Did You Know?

The possessive form usually occurs before another noun.

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For example:

- ♦ the *man's* car
- ♦ the *teacher's* student
- ♦ a *girls'* school



8. Catherine and Megha are the girls class teachers.
9. Both the carpenters tools are in that room.
10. Kamalas story seems real.

B. Replace the underlined words with the correct possessive form only where required. Work in pairs and check each other's answers.   **CT**

1. The wife of the doctor is a chemist.
2. The parents of Saurav have gone on a holiday to Australia.
3. The teachers are meeting in the chamber of the Principal.
4. We read inspiring stories about the adventures of the king.
5. There were three eggs in the nest of the bird.
6. We will go to the party at the house of John.
7. Do not enter the room of the girls.
8. The tyre of the scooter has worn out.
9. The name of the place is Chandigarh.
10. Prasad is reading the diary that belongs to his mother.

- iv. With proper nouns that consist of one syllable and end in -s, the possessive form usually takes 's. For example:

James's car Chris's house

- v. However, when writing the possessive form of some nouns that consist of more than one syllable and that end in -s, we do not add another s after the apostrophe (').

For example:

Socrates' students Jesus' life

Self-help

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When the possessive form of a noun is formed with a proper noun, we do not use *the* before it.

- ♦ The pencil box of Sahil is broken.
- The Sahil's pencil box is broken.

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Common Error Alerts

We generally do not use the possessive form of a noun that are names of non-living things.  **21st** **IL**

- ♦ a table's legs **X**
- ♦ an egg's shell **X**

Did You Know?

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A syllable is a single unit of speech, either a whole word or one of the parts into which a word can be separated, and it usually contains a vowel.

For example:

- ♦ fish, Tom (one syllable)
- ♦ ti.ger, Em.mma (two syllables)
- ♦ oc.to.pus, Ar.i.stot.le (more than two syllables)

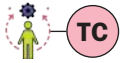
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Plural Nouns and Possessive Nouns

Notice how plural nouns are different from possessive nouns. Plurals express that there is more than one of the noun; possessive nouns express who owns or possesses something.

Noun	Singular	Plural
Regular Noun	girl	girls
Possessive Noun	girl's	girls'

C. Work in groups of four. Circle the possessive nouns and underline the regular nouns. 

- These are our neighbour's chairs.
- These tables belong to our neighbours.
- Deepika's room is untidy.
- The books Deepika has are untidy.
- Radhika's brother got married to Tejas' sister.
- Radhika has two brothers, and Tejas has two sisters.
- St Paul's Cathedral in London gets many visitors.
- The visitor's bags were checked by the guard.
- Ms Jones stays in a girls' hostel.
- There is a huge neem tree near Ms Jones's hostel.



D. Choose the correct form of the noun given in brackets and fill in the blanks. Your teacher will check your answers.   

- Students who came from other towns or cities stayed in the _____ (boys/boys'/boy's) hostel.
- Many people came to look at my _____ (aunts'/aunt's/aunts) furniture. She was selling it all.
- There were plenty of _____ (bananas/banana's/bananas') in the market.
- Are you going to the auditorium for _____ (Radhikas/Radhika's/Radhikas') performance?



- 5. The _____ (doctors/doctor's/doctors') tried to find a solution to this _____ (patients/patient's/patients') problem.
- 6. Laura has a dog. The _____ (dogs/dog's/dogs') kennel is as big as a tree house.
- 7. _____ (James's/James'/James) pets are treated fondly.
- 8. An _____ (actors/actor's/actors') job is to entertain the audience.
- 9. We are staying at our _____ (friends/friend's/friends') place in Italy.
- 10. We have many _____ (friends/friend's/friends') in Italy.



Summary 21st CR

In this lesson, we have learnt that

- nouns have a **possessive form** which is formed in different ways;

Noun	To Form the Possessive
for most singular nouns	add 's
for a plural noun that ends in -s	add '
for a plural noun that does not end in -s	add 's
for a proper noun, with one syllable, that ends in -s	add 's
for a proper noun, with more than one syllable, that ends in -s	add only '

- the possessive form usually occurs before another noun.

2

Nouns
Singular and Plural



Warm-up

Work in pairs, and read the singular and plural nouns. If the plural has been formed correctly, put a tick (✓), else write the correct plural form in column C.

A	B	C
oyster	oysters	
trench	trenchs	
activity	activites	
bus	buses	
volcano	volcanos	
video	videos	
monkey	monkies	
chief	chieves	
tax	taxs	

A	B	C
loss	lossess	
toolbox	toolboxies	
raspberry	raspberrys	
mosquito	mosquitoes	
branch	branches	
flamingo	flamingos	
zero	zeroes	
life	lives	
sheep	sheeps	

We usually add an -s to most singular nouns to get their plural forms. However, when a singular noun

- i. ends in -s, -ss, -sh, -ch or -x, we add -es to the singular noun.
- ii. ends in -o, we
 - a. usually add -es to the singular noun.
 - b. add -s to the singular noun.
 - c. add either -s or -es to the singular noun (some nouns can take either).
- iii. ends in -a, -e, -o or -u before -y, we add -s to the singular noun.
- iv. ends in a consonant and -y, we change the y to i, and add -es to the singular noun.

Did You Know?

Uncountable nouns do not have a plural form. For example: luggage, furniture, homework

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- v. ends in a vowel and -y, we add -s to the singular noun.
- vi. ends in -f or -fe, we change the f or fe to v, and add -es to the singular noun.

Irregular Plurals

However, there are some nouns that do not form their plural in any of the ways listed. They are called **irregular plurals**.

- i. Some plural nouns are formed by changing the vowel(s) in the middle of the word.

For example:

Singular	Plural
goose	geese
foot	feet
man	men

Singular	Plural
mouse	mice
tooth	teeth
woman	women



- A. Fill in the blanks by writing the correct plural form of the nouns given in brackets. Work in pairs and check each other's answers.



- 1. Keep both your _____ (foot) firmly on the wooden surface.
- 2. I show my _____ (tooth) to a dentist regularly.
- 3. I like the story about the five _____ (man) and six _____ (woman).
- 4. The white _____ (goose) had pink legs.
- 5. All the _____ (mouse) in town followed the Pied Piper.



- ii. Some plurals are formed by adding another letter and -en, or -en.

For example:

Singular	Plural
child	children
ox	oxen

Did You Know?

Notice how the pronunciation of *child* in the words *child* and *children* differ.



iii. The plural form of some nouns is the same as their singular form.

For example:

Singular	Plural
deer	deer
sheep	sheep
fish	fish
cod	cod

Common Error Alerts

The plural of *fish* can sometimes be *fishes*, when we refer to many types of fish.

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B. Fill in the blanks by writing the correct plural form of the nouns given in brackets. Your teacher will check your answer.



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1.

All the _____ (sheep) were in the pen.
2.

Do not clench your _____ (tooth).
3.

_____ (Deer) can run very fast when they are in danger.
4.

_____ (Salmon) are found in the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.
5.

Her _____ (child) love jam biscuits.
6.

How many _____ (ox) did you see near the field?
7.

The birds fed all their _____ (offspring).
8.

We spotted two _____ (cod). One was greyish, the other was red.
9.

There were many _____ (fish) of the same species in the aquarium.
10.

We saw _____ (trout) that had red spots on their bodies.

iv. Nouns that end in -ese or -ss and are used to refer to citizens of countries have the same singular and plural forms.

For example:

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Japanese	Japanese	Lebanese	Lebanese
Taiwanese	Taiwanese	Vietnamese	Vietnamese
Portuguese	Portuguese	Swiss	Swiss

- ✦ singular: My neighbour is *Japanese*.
- plural: My neighbours are *Japanese*.



C. Fill in the blanks by writing the correct plural form of the nouns given in the box. The first letter of the word is given as a clue in brackets. 

Swiss Japanese Lebanese Portuguese Vietnamese

- 
- We have one (S) _____ in our school.
 - Several (J) _____ visited the factories in India.
 - A number of (P) _____ have settled down in Goa.
 - Many (L) _____ have grown a variety of crops on mountain slopes in this region.
 - People who belong to Vietnam are called (V) _____.

v. Some nouns ending in *-ies* have the same singular and plural forms.

For example:

Singular	Plural
series	series
species	species

Sentence with Singular Noun	Sentence with Plural Noun
The Indian team is playing only one <i>series</i> this year.	The Indian team has played many <i>series</i> against Australia.
The tiger is an endangered <i>species</i> .	Many <i>species</i> of plants are found in this area.

D. Work in groups of three and read the sentences. Next, circle the incorrect plural forms of the nouns in these sentences. Then, rewrite the sentences correctly and check each other's answers.  

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- Gooses are large birds that look like ducks.
 - A dentist is doctor who takes care of our tooth.
 - There were more womens at the cinema than mans.
 - We must wash our handz and foots regularly to avoid any infections.



- 5. See how the three blind mouses run.
- 6. The young deers are lovable.
- 7. We get wool from sheeps.
- 8. My uncle has three childs—two sons and a daughter.
- 9. In my village, the farmers use oxes to plough the field.
- 10. I have two friends who are Swisses. They got me a lot of chokolaties from Switzerland.

vi. Some nouns are used only in the singular or the plural.

Nouns that are always used in the singular form	Nouns that are always used in the plural form
love	people
Mathematics	police
politics	poultry
furniture	clothes
news	binoculars
knowledge	pyjamas
information	headphones
advice	sunglasses
rickets	scissors

Common Error Alerts

- ♦ Nouns that are used in the singular form always take a singular verb.
For example:
The news *is* interesting to watch.
- ♦ Nouns that are used in the plural form always take a plural verb.
For example:
The headphones *are* not working properly.

For names of tools and clothing that are always used in the plural, we use the words *pair(s) of* to refer to one or more of them.

For example:

- ♦ I bought a *pair of* binoculars today.
- ♦ Uncle Sumit has four *pairs of* shoes.

E. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the nouns in brackets.

- 1. I bought a _____ (pyjamas) today.
- 2. My sister gifted two _____ (jeans) to me.

